

(d) Both the defendant and the commonwealth shall have the right to submit briefs within the time provided by the supreme judicial court, and to present oral argument to said court.

(e) The supreme judicial court shall include in its decision a reference to similar cases which it took into consideration. In addition to its authority regarding correction of errors, the said court shall have authority to (1) affirm the sentence of death, or (2) set the sentence aside and remand the case for resentencing by the trial judge based on the record and argument of counsel. The records of similar cases referred to by the supreme judicial court in its decision, and the extracts thereof shall also be provided to the resentencing judge for his consideration.

(f) The sentence review and appeal shall be consolidated for consideration. The court shall render its decision on legal errors enumerated, the factual substantiation of the verdict and the validity of the sentence.

SECTION 4. The supreme judicial court shall accumulate the records of all first degree murder cases in which sentence was imposed after January first, nineteen hundred and eighty or such earlier date as the court may deem appropriate. The executive secretary to the supreme judicial court shall provide to said court extracts from said cases, including but not limited to a synopsis or brief of the facts in the record concerning the crime and the defendant. Said extracts shall be used by the supreme judicial court for its own purposes and for those set forth in paragraph (e) of section fifty-six of chapter two hundred and seventy-nine of the General Laws.

Approved August 14, 1979.

Chap. 489. AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE FUNDING OF
SALARIES PAYABLE DURING THE MONTHS
OF JULY AND AUGUST TO TEACHERS AND
OTHER PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES OF THE
SCHOOL DEPARTMENT IN THE TOWN OF
BILLERICA.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of any law to the contrary, the school committee of the town of Billerica may exclude from its budget for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, nineteen hundred and eighty the estimated amounts earned by teachers or any other professional employees of the school department for the school year ending on June thirtieth, nineteen hundred and eighty, which are actually payable during the months of July and August of the year nineteen hundred and eighty. Said school committee shall budget for the fiscal year commencing July first, nineteen hundred and eighty, one-half of the amounts necessary to make payments during the months of July and August, nineteen hundred and eighty-one, of monies earned by teachers and any other professional employees for the school year ending June thirtieth, nineteen hundred and eighty, and for the fiscal year commencing July first, nineteen hundred and eighty-one, the full amounts necessary to make payments

during the months of July and August, nineteen hundred and eighty-one, of monies earned by teachers and any other professional employees for the school year ending June thirtieth, nineteen hundred and eighty-two, and such amounts shall be subject to the provisions of section thirty-four of chapter seventy-one of the General Laws.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage. (The foregoing was laid before the Governor on the 1st day of August, 1979 and after ten days it had "the force of a law", as prescribed by the Constitution, as it was not returned by him within his objections thereto within that time.)

Chap. 490. AN ACT ALTERING THE PROCEDURE OF VOTING IN THE STILES LAKE WATER DISTRICT IN PARTS OF THE TOWNS OF LEICESTER AND SPENCER.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 1 of chapter 476 of the acts of 1976 is hereby amended by striking out, in line 1, the words "The inhabitants" and inserting in place thereof the words:- All eligible voters and natural persons who own real property who are not eligible voters.

SECTION 2. Section 9 of said chapter 476 is hereby amended by striking out, in line 5, the words "inhabitants of and voters" and inserting in place thereof the words:- eligible to vote.

SECTION 3. Section 11 of said chapter 476 is hereby amended by striking out, in lines 3 and 4, the words "legal voters" and inserting in place thereof the words:- eligible voters and natural persons who own real estate who are not eligible voters.

SECTION 4. Section 13 of said chapter 476 is hereby amended by striking out, in line 8, the word "voters" and inserting in place thereof the words:- eligible voters and natural persons who own real estate who are not eligible voters.

SECTION 5. Said section 13 of said chapter 476 is hereby amended by striking out, in line 10, the word "voters" and inserting in place thereof the word:- persons.

Approved August 14, 1979.

EMERGENCY LETTER, August 15, 1979 @ 1:37 P.M.

Chap. 491. AN ACT MAKING CORRECTIVE CHANGES IN THE LAW AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF EASEMENTS IN THE TOWN OF MARBLEHEAD BY THE SOUTH ESSEX SEWERAGE DISTRICT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF CERTAIN SEWERAGE FACILITIES.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. The South Essex Sewerage District is hereby